



# FUNDING ALERT!

Professional Assistance for Today's Unprecedented Funding Opportunities



## Program Name

Florida Broadband Opportunity Grant Program

## Funding Amount

Up to \$400 million from Florida (FL) General Revenue Funds

- Maximum grant amount of \$5 Million for a single project
- Grant awards may not fund more than 50% of total project cost

Florida

## Key Dates

- **October 20** – Statewide Technical Assistance Webinar
- **November 1** – Rural Technical Assistance Webinar
- **November 2** – Application Window Opens
- **December 2 – Applications Due by 5:00 PM ET**
- **December 7** – Challenge Window Opens
- **January 21, 2023** – Challenge Window Closes

**\$400 Million**

## Eligible Applicants

- Corporations
- Limited Liability Companies
- General and Limited Partnerships\*\*
- Political Subdivisions
- Tribal

\*\* Organized under FL laws or otherwise authorized to transact business in FL

## Eligible Areas

Areas that lack at least 25/3 Mbps broadband service per FL Statutes

## Eligible Projects

Installation or deployment of infrastructure that supports the provision of reliable, affordable high-speed broadband internet service

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## **Mapping Issues**

- Applications must include a service map of the proposed funding service area (PFSA) in both PDF version and a spatial version (.shp, .kml, or .kmz format)
  - Last-Mile Project: Includes service area boundaries and place names, boundaries, buildings, road/street names or other features that clearly identify the PFSA
  - Middle-Mile Project: Indicate the location of the middle mile facilities that will be placed
  - Label the map as "Attachment 3-B"
- Applications must include a network map of the PFSA in both PDF version and a spatial version (.shp, .kml, .kmz format)
  - Label the map as "Attachment 3-C"

## **Application Contents**

- Applicant must be registered in SAM.gov, and provide Unique Entity ID generated by SAM.gov
- An application must include:
  - Application Overview
  - Executive Summary
  - Project Location Data and Maps
  - Project Impact
  - Project Budget
  - Funding Sources
  - Economic and Community Impact
  - Economic Distress
  - Community Support
  - Alignment with State Strategic Plan
  - Project Readiness
  - Network Scalability
  - Project Viability and Sustainability
  - Affordability and Adoption Assistance
  - Service Packaging and Customer Acquisitions
  - Appendix for Key Attachments

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## Evaluation Criteria

- Eligible Applicants must obtain a minimum evaluation score of 130 points to be considered for funding; however, this does not guarantee an award
- Points will be awarded to applications that leverage additional funds totaling 50% or more of total eligible project costs
  - 50% non-state match is not required for an application to be competitive
- Evaluation Criteria
  - Broadband Impact **(50 points)**
  - Network Scalability **(35 points)**
  - Project Viability & Sustainability **(35 points)**
  - Economic Distress **(40 points)**
  - Funding Sources and Community Support **(40 points)**
  - Alignment with [Florida Strategic Plan](#) **(40 points)**
  - Project Readiness **(40 points)**
  - Affordability & Adoption Assistance **(20 points)**

## Buildout Requirements

- Recipients required to expend funds by December 31, 2026
- Applicants must offer one low-cost option without data usage caps, at speeds sufficient for a multiple user household to simultaneously engage in telework and remote learning
- Infrastructure must deliver service that reliably meets or exceeds 100 Mbps symmetrical

## Eligible Costs

### Per Mile Deployed Costs (Last or Middle Mile)

- Planning and Construction Costs
  - Engineering Design
  - Permitting
  - Pre-Construction Costs (Make-Ready)
  - Outside Plant Materials (fiber, poles, hardware, conduit, splitters, etc.)
  - Labor
  - Construction Management

### Fixed Wireless Project Costs

- Per Premise Covered Costs
  - Engineering Design
  - Permitting
  - Pre-Construction Cost
  - Spectrum
  - Tower Site Acquisition and Construction
  - Fiber Backhaul Construction
  - Labor
  - Construction Management
  - Base Station Equipment

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## Links & Emails

- [Broadband Opportunity Program Website](#)
- [Broadband Opportunity Program Grant Application](#)
- [Scoring and Evaluation Criteria](#)
- Please submit questions to [broadband@deo.myflorida.com](mailto:broadband@deo.myflorida.com)

**nrtc**  
funding@nrtc.coop

Contact us for Funding Assistance. NRTC's Funding Practice offers key benefits including:

- Opportunity Evaluation
- Effective Grant Writing
- Track Record of Success

**Telecom Companies:** Contact Rodney Pugh at 703-464-5235 or [rpugh@nrtc.coop](mailto:rpugh@nrtc.coop)

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